

JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION (FAR 6.3)

CAMPBELL SCIENTIFIC, INC.
CUSTOMIZED SUBMERSIBLE CR1000 DATA LOGGER AND HOUSING

This is a request by the Hydrologic Instrumentation Facility on behalf of the California Water Science Center for the purchase of customized equipment from Campbell Scientific, Inc. for the purpose of controlling and logging a variety of water quality sensors.

1. Contracting Agency and Activity.

The Department of the Interior, United States Geological Survey, Reston Acquisition Branch, plans to contract on a sole source basis. This document sets forth the justification and approval for use of an exception in accordance with FAR 6.302-1 "Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements".

2. Nature of Action Being Approved.

The requested procurement is for award of a noncompetitive Firm Fixed Price purchase order to Campbell Scientific, Inc. for specialized instrumentation. The period of performance is 3 months or less and is a single award.

Campbell Scientific, Inc.
815 West 1800 North
Logan, UT 84321-1784

3. Description of Supplies or Services.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Water Resources Division, Hydrologic Instrumentation Facility (HIF), requests award of a non-competitive procurement to Campbell Scientific, Inc. for the purchase of 15 each, CR1000 dataloggers in submersible enclosures to be delivered to the California Water Science Center (Sacramento).

The 15 submersible systems consist of:

CR1000 dataloggers

Waterproof housing

Underwater, bulkhead connectors (8-16)

Ancillary pre-wired electronics

These data loggers are used to control a variety of water quality instruments, collect and log data, and transmit data from instruments deployed in the field, at a gaging station, or left to operate unattended for an extended period of time.

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These pre-wired features allow the entire system to be submersible, with only a single tethered cable extruding from the units. This newly developed equipment is specifically developed for existing water quality sensors.

4. Estimated Dollar Value.

The estimated value of this procurement is \$85,500.

5. Statutory Authority.

The proposed action may be awarded on a sole source basis in accordance with FAR 6.302-1.1 "Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements".

6. Rationale Supporting Use of Citation in No. 5.

Only one responsible source and no other supplies or services will satisfy the agency requirements. Campbell Scientific is the original equipment manufacturer of the CR1000 data logger. Campbell Scientific, Inc. maintains proprietary data rights to the equipment and has no known authorized resellers.

The required equipment is of a highly specialized nature and includes a proprietary communication protocol (PakBus) that is currently in use at a large number of USGS sites. The CR1000 data loggers are unique in the level of flexibility the user has in programming and controlling instruments, as well as extensive datalogger support from Campbell Scientific, Inc.

Purchase of another manufacturer's equipment would require serious modification to existing infrastructure to include writing new computer code or programs to integrate another manufacturer's equipment into the aforementioned systems. This modification of the existing infrastructure would not only cause serious delays in the procurement process due to stringent test requirements but also represents a substantial duplication, estimated to be tens of thousands of dollars, of the governments cost.

Use and interfacing of another product(s) would require the following effort: (1) the equipment would have to be tested and proven to meet the manufacturer's and USGS specifications (including the underwater housings), (2) users would have to be trained on how to use and code the new systems (including using a different communication protocol), and (3) users would then have to integrate the product into the aforementioned USGS water quality monitoring systems. The delays associated with testing the new equipment, receiving training, and interfacing the equipment into the existing infrastructure would be significant, at least 6-9 months.

7. Other Information.

Campbell Scientific is the only known authorized dealer for Campbell Scientific manufactured equipment. No other manufacturer can offer equipment that meets the stringent measurement requirements written by the USGS and the integration requirements of the existing infrastructure; particularly the PackBus protocol, necessary baud rates, and distances.

8. The Efforts to Identify Additional Sources Including the Market Research Conducted.

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Several submersible data loggers sold by other companies have been tested by USGS researchers to see if they meet specifications including the Wetlabs DH-4 and NexSens SDL500. Noother company makes equipment meeting the Government's minimum need for this purpose at this time. Market research will be conducted with each future acquisition to identify vendors with compatible equipment.

9. Future Plans to Permit Competition.

To promote competition, HIF continually tests new devices as they become available on the market. HIF routinely attends vendor conferences, trade shows, meetings, and conferences where vendors are present. HIF also attends local Business and Procurement Expositions in order to make vendors aware of USGS needs and business opportunities. HIF encourages vendors to develop and submit products that meet USGS requirements. In addition, HIF promotes visits from vendors to demonstrate and provide information about their products.

10. Recommendation and Certification from Program Office

Based on the above, I recommend this acquisition be conducted on the basis of other than full and open competition. I certify that technical data which form a basis for this justification that are the responsibility of technical or requirements personnel are complete and accurate.



 Frank S. Henry
 Assoc. Chief, HIF

12-5-12
 Date

11. Approval by the Contracting Officer in accordance with FAR 13.106-1(b) (1) – only one source reasonably available:

- a. As per FAR 6.303-2(a)(7), the contracting officer has determined the anticipated price is considered fair and reasonable on the basis of comparing the contractor's proposed prices with the estimate prices of building the required equipment utilizing labor and components from Government sources.
- b. The HIF determined that it would be more expensive to build the enclosures using "in house" resources. The approximate costs were \$1,200 for solid plastic housing, \$400 for connectors, \$300 for connectors and approximately \$1,300 in assembly time and \$1,300 in testing. Overall, it would cost \$4,500 to build the unit in house, whereas Campbell Scientific is able to build the unit housing and install the data loggers for \$3,732.27 per unit.
- c. This justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

 David P. Ouellette, Contracting Officer

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12. Concurrence by Competition Advocate > \$25,000 (DIAPR 2008-10 Enhancing Competition)

Jennifer Farrell, Bureau Competition Advocate

Date